IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

International Application No.

PCT/EP00/06314

International Filing Date

5 JULY 2000

Priority Date(s) Claimed

28 JULY 1999

Applicant(s) (DO/EO/US)

ZIELINSKI, Claudia, et al.

Title: ETCHING SOLUTION, CONTAINING HYDROFLUORIC ACID

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to calculating the national fee, and prior to examination in the National Phase of the above-identified International application, please amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

6. (Amended) Etching solutions according to Claim 1, comprising water in an amount of from 1 to 20% by weight.

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7. (Amended) Etching solutions according to Claim 1, comprising a mixture of high-purity individual components.

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8. (Amended) Use of the etching solutions according to Claim 1 for the selective etching of doped silicate layers.